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REMARKS

Applicants' Attorney thanks the Examiner for discussing by telephone on 26 January 2004 further amendments to the claims, and how to resolve the remaining issue of withdrawn Claims 35 and 38 as affected by the Petition from Requirement for Restriction Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.144 mailed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on 15 September 2003. As discussed with the Examiner, Applicants are now amending Claim 14, canceling all claims withdrawn by restriction, and withdrawing said Petition.

Claims 1-9, 12, 13, 16-32, 35 and 38, previously withdrawn, are now canceled. Claim 14 has been amended. Support for Claim 14 as amended is found on page 14, lines 12-18.

Rejection of Claims 14, 36 and 37 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 14 and dependant Claims 36 and 37 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), according to the Advisory Action of 24 December 2003, as the claims were said to be anticipated by Reams (*J. Invest. Dermatol* 49: 552-558, 1967). Claim 14 has been amended, and as amended, the method of Claim 14 is clearly different from what was practiced by Reams. The mice in Reams were only days old, and the region of skin studied was not subjected to injury.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By Carol A. Egner
Carol A. Egner
Registration No. 38,866
Telephone: (978) 341-0036
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133
Dated: January 30, 2004